



Stop Animal Exploitation NOW!

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Dr. Elizabeth Goldentyer  
USDA/APHIS/AC  
920 Main Campus Drive, Suite 2000  
Raleigh, NC 27606

8/15/13

Dr. Goldentyer,

I am contacting you today relevant to West Virginia University (54-R-0001). The recent USDA inspection of this facility disclosed the unnecessary deaths of two sheep due to a lack of pre-surgical evaluations. This citation was clearly insufficient. It is very obvious that the deaths of these sheep were also due to violation(s) of section:

CFR 2.33 Adequate Veterinary care:(b)

(3) Daily observation of all animals to assess their health and well-being; Provided, however, That daily observation of animals may be accomplished by someone other than the attending veterinarian; and Provided, further, That a mechanism of direct and frequent communication is required so that timely and accurate information on problems of animal health, behavior, and well-being is conveyed to the attending veterinarian;

(4) Guidance to principal investigators and other personnel involved in the care and use of animals regarding handling, immobilization, anesthesia, analgesia, tranquilization, and euthanasia; and

(5) Adequate pre-procedural and post-procedural care in accordance with current established veterinary medical and nursing procedures.

This laboratory has killed two animals by failing to provide adequate pre-procedural care, and failing to adequately monitor/utilize surgical anesthesia.

I know that your office takes all violations of the Animal Welfare Act seriously, especially when they are directly related to the deaths of animals. Therefore, I must request that your office immediately institute a full investigation of West Virginia University, issue additional citation(s) for inadequate veterinary care under section 2.33(b)(3) - (5), and at the conclusion of this investigation, issue the largest fine allowable by law.

I look forward to hearing from you in the near future about the fate of this facility.

Sincerely,

*Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T.*

Michael A. Budkie, A.H.T.,  
Executive Director, SAEN

Attachments: West Virginia University Inspection Report